

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 185962
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SS-15
SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 SIG-03 PA-01 ICAE-00 /044 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/AND/P:DIKEMP:MG
APPROVED BY ARA:VPVAKY
ARA:FJMCNEIL

-----032457 221845Z /41

O 221840Z JUL 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 185962

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, VE, CO, CS

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING
EVENTS IN BOLIVIA

1. AS PART OF ASSESSMENT OF BOLIVIAN SITUATION DEPARTMENT
WOULD APPRECIATE ADDRESSEES CONFERRING WITH HOST GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS AT HIGHEST APPROPRIATE LEVEL TO ASCERTAIN THEIR
VIEWS AND REACTIONS TO GENERAL JUAN PEREDA'S ASSUMPTION OF
POWER IN BOLIVIA. OPPORTUNITY SHOULD ALSO BE USED TO PRE-
SENT USG POSITION.

2. THE BOLIVIAN SITUATION HAS DEVELOPED AS FOLLOWS: IN
THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF JULY 21, IN THE WAKE OF
ANNULMENT OF FRAUD-RIDDEN JULY 9 ELECTION IN WHICH PEREDA
FORCES CLAIMED AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY, MILITARY UNITS IN
CITY OF SANTA CRUZ INITIATED AN UPRISING AND DEMANDED
PEREDA BE PROCLAIMED PRESIDENT. DESPITE EFFORTS BY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 185962

BANZER GOVERNMENT TO STOP IT, THE LARGELY NON VIOLENT UP-
RISING GAINED MILITARY AND CIVILIAN ADHERENTS THROUGHOUT
THE COUNTRY. BY AFTERNOON IT BECAME CLEAR THAT PRO-PEREDA
FORCES HAD UPPER HAND AND IN THE EVENING BANZER RESIGNED
LEAVING BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT IN HANDS OF THREE SERVICE COM-
MANDERS. AFTER RULLING FOR ONE HOUR, JUNTA PASSED CONTROL
TO PEREDA WHO WAS IMMEDIATELY SWORN IN AS PRESIDENT.

3. IN DISCUSSING SITUATION WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS USG CONCERN OVER THIS TURN OF EVENTS SHOULD BE STRESSED. EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE CLEAR OUR DEEP REGRET OVER THE DISRUPTION OF THE ELECTORAL COURSE AND DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL PROCESS AND EXPRESS OUR HOPE THAT IT WILL BE TEMPORARY IN NATURE. WHILE WE DO NOT WANT TO LEGITIMIZE THE INTERRUPTION OF THE DEMOCRATIZATION PROCESS OR PEREDA'S ASSUMPTION OF THE PRESIDENCY, WE ALSO DO NOT WANT TO TAKE A STRIDENT POSITION THAT WOULD HARDEN PEREDA'S POSITION AGAINST RENEWING THE TRANSITION TO DEMOCRATIC RULE THROUGH UNFETTERED ELECTIONS. WE PLAN TO TAILOR OUR IMMEDIATE ACTIONS TO ENCOURAGE THE PRESERVATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRESS IN BOLIVIA AND THE REINITIATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS. DEPARTMENT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING OF HOST GOVERNMENTS' PLANNED ACTION OR STATEMENTS.

4. RESPONSES TO PRESS QUESTIONS OVER THE WEEKEND WILL FOLLOW LINE IN FOLLOWING Q AND A PREPARED FOR THE SECRETARY'S APPEARANCE ON "ISSUES AND ANSWERS".

Q: WHAT IS THE UNITED STATES ATTITUDE TOWARD EVENTS IN BOLIVIA?

A: WE REGRET THAT THE EVENTS IN BOLIVIA SEEM TO HAVE INTERRUPTED THE ELECTORAL COURSE AND DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 185962

PROCESS IN THAT COUNTRY WHICH HAD BEEN SET IN TRAIN. HOPEFULLY THIS INTERRUPTION IS TEMPORARY AND THE NEW GOVERNMENT WILL RENEW THIS PROCESS AND ELECTORAL PROCEDURES THAT WILL PERMIT THE BOLIVIAN PEOPLE TO FULFILL THEIR LEGITIMATE DEMOCRATIC ASPIRATIONS.

Q: HAVE YOU RECOGNIZED THE NEW GOVERNMENT?

A: WE DO NOT HAVE ALL THE FACTS AND ARE STUDYING THE MATTER. IT IS NOT CLEAR THAT THE QUESTION OF RECOGNITION IS EVEN AT ISSUE. VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE185962
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DIKEMP:MG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780302-0323
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780729/aaaaayuu.tel
Line Count: 105
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cf928a6e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1913871
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSULTATIONS WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING EVENTS IN BOLIVIA
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PINR, VE, CO, CS
To: CARACAS BOGOTA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cf928a6e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014